

C.M.R.A.
Connecticut Motorcycle Riders Association
Legislative Committee
654 Hanover Road
Meriden, CT 06451

Sandra Clark, Vice Chairman
203-886-8770

imnamericanwmn@hotmail.com

Members of the Transportation Committee, I am here today as the Vice Chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Connecticut Motorcycle Riders Association (CMRA), to voice our opinion against Proposed Senate Bills No. 826 and No. 821. Both bills have a "Statement of Purpose" to prevent the operation of motorcycles with illegally loud tail pipes that violate maximum legal noise levels.

The CMRA does not advocate the installation or use of exhaust systems that are considered illegal by current state or federal standards. Furthermore there has been limited opposition to past legislative efforts in regards to loud tail pipes purchased by motorcycling consumers in the state of Connecticut by CMRA.

The primary objection the CMRA would like to express today in regards to proposed Senate Bills 821 and 826 (which are worded nearly the same) is the vertical tying (Sherman Antitrust Act) which would be required by any motorcycle owner. There is no current Connecticut State law found that forces any vehicle operators to replace parts, purchase specific parts, or perform all vehicle maintenance at the dealership or manufacturer specific to the vehicle or show proof thereof for operation on the roadways.

Current manufacturers of motorcycle tail pipes are primarily located in the United States of America. Manufacturers provide a consumer with a warning respectful of federal decibel standards for legal road use. The majority of tail pipes manufactured and sold in the United States will often offer a consumer a legal yet more economic option of tail pipe replacement than one sold by a dealer that is brand specific. This is no different than the choice afforded automobile owners in replacing their vehicle exhaust system.

In conclusion, the CMRA believes that the Bills numbered 821 and 826 would prohibit a consumer to freely choose a product for their vehicle. This is not the solution to the problem.